



Tangipahoa-St. Helena Soil & Water Conservation District



Press Release- 2013 Conservation Poster Contest

For over fifty years, a national network of conservation districts have helped Americans learn to conserve natural resources. This year, join the Tangipahoa-St. Helena Soil and Water Conservation District and America's conservation districts as we participate in the Annual Conservation Poster Contest. The Conservation Poster Contest takes place during the fall, with the theme "Where Does Your Water Shed."

The contest will have five categories: **K-1, 2-3, 4-6, 7-9, and 10-12.** Local judging will occur on October 17, 2013, so it is important that entries are received no later than 2 p.m. on October 16, 2013. The Tangipahoa-St. Helena Soil and Water Conservation District will award the following prizes in each category: 1st Place- \$15, 2nd Place - \$10, and 3rd Place \$5. Each categories 1st place local district winner will be entered in the state competition. In the state competition 1st winners will be awarded with \$75.00 and 2nd place winners will receive \$50.00. The 1st place winners in the state contest will be sent to the national poster competition, where they will compete in the national level. National 1st place winners receive \$100 and 2nd place winners receive \$75.

The annual poster contests provide kindergarten through twelfth grade students with an opportunity to share their thoughts about soil, water and related natural resource issues. This year's theme, **"Where Does Your Water Shed."** focuses on water and watersheds. The amount of fresh water on earth is all we have. It is important to understand where the fresh water goes after a rain, after you empty the bathtub or use it to water your plants. Clean water is important to everyone. Watersheds come in all shapes and sizes. They cross county, state and national boundaries. Every inch of the land on planet Earth is part of a watershed. In the continental U.S., there are 2,100 watersheds; if we include Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico, the count rises to 2,267. No matter where you are right now, you are in a watershed. Less than 1-percent of all of the water on our planet is fresh water. The average citizen in the United States uses 70 gallons of water every day; and this does not include the water it takes to manufacture the automobiles, clothing, and food we depend on each and every day. This year's theme encourages each of us to take time to learn about our local community water supply sources, and volunteer for river, stream or beach clean-up days. By pitching in and becoming aware of the watersheds around us we can improve our water quality and conserve this very precious natural resource we call water. The conservation poster contest is a great way to elevate awareness and to involve our youth in conservation. Each and every one of us is able to contribute and be good stewards of our natural resources. You *CAN* make a difference

The Tangipahoa-St. Helena Soil and Water Conservation District wants to help people in our community to learn how important it is to help conserve all our natural resources and how easy it can be. For information about the conservation poster contest and other conservation issues please contact Cecilia Spiess at the Tangipahoa-St. Helena Soil and Water Conservation District office located at 805 West Oak Street, Suite 1, in Amite, Louisiana, 70422. You may also call (985) 748-8751, Extension 101. Our office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. You may also reach us at anytime via email at cecilia.spiess@la.nacdnet.net.